

**Abstract**

An apparatus and method for selecting between the signal paths of an antenna system is disclosed. The illustrative embodiment provides an efficient selection technique wherein the antenna system is the steerable beam type, in which directionally distinct beams are formed. The illustrative embodiment also provides an efficient selection technique wherein the antenna system is the diversity switching type, in which multiple, distinct antennas are used. The technique in the illustrative embodiment reduces the number of directed (*i.e.*, addressed) frames that are lost compared with other techniques and, as a result, improves network performance.